






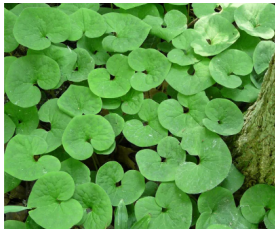


Sukkat Shalom Self Guided Tour

| MAIN ENTRANCE | |
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| 1. Boulder | Note the big rock to the right of the Arbor. It will be engraved soon with the welcome words on the sign next to it. |
| 2. Arbor | The arbor of the main entrance to Sukkat Shalom was fully installed by TA volunteers. A beautiful climbing hydrangea will be planted this fall to eventually crown over the arbor. |
| 3. Paths | As you walk in, notice the paths. These were all installed by amazing volunteer Temple Aliyah members. Many of the pavers were donated by members as well. |
| 4. Dry well | Just past the entrance on your right is a big hole filled with rocks. It is a water well 15' in depth that holds runoff water from heavy storms, preventing flooding of the play area. |
| PLAY AREA | |
| 1. Playhouse and Plaque | The beautiful playhouse was donated by the parents of Gan Aliyah Preschool. Find the Plaque with a dedication to a member who has championed the establishment of Gan Aliyah Preschool since the beginning. Who is this member? |
| 2. Log Stumps | The log stumps that separate the play area from the community area were cut from a dead tree on our property that had to be taken down. |
| 3. Open Space | <p>Our Gan children love running around and digging and playing in the dirt. So we have given them ample space to do so.</p> <p>Fiind the “mud kitchen” where the kids will be able to make delicious pretend mud cakes and more!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Then look up and see if you can find painted bird houses. How many are there?• Look towards the back fence. Can you find the family of turtles? |
| RENEWAL AREA | |
| To the left of the play area and the entrance arbor is the renewal area. | |
| 1. Molli’s Garden | Look for Molli’s Garden with four raised planting beds. Sukkat Shalom has been made possible by a generous bequest from our late friend and fellow congregant, Molli Krausz. May her memory be a blessing to us all. |

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| <p>2. Whimsical Signs Molli's Garden sign, the chicken in the beds, the playhouse decor and the colorful totem poles were made by Needham local artist Amy Cicala.</p> |
| <p>3. Raised Garden Beds Look for the 4 raised garden beds at the front edge of the renewal space. The beds were planted by Gan Aliyah students this past June and will continue to be an educational part of the Gan and Mercaz Aliyah programs. The kids planted tomatoes, zucchini, cucumbers, beans, herbs, flowers and more!</p> |
| <p>4. Meadows, Birds, and Butterflies! Find the poster at the entrance of the renewal area by the tent to learn about how we will be transforming the field into a native plant meadow that will attract birds, bees and butterflies.</p> |
| <p>5. Lasagna Method There are a few areas that are covered with mulch. Read the sign at the end of the path behind the playhouse to learn what the Lasagna Method is all about!</p> |
| <p>6. Well Spout Drainage In the middle of the field there is a PVC cleanout! A 10' trench was dug and a large reservoir was installed to capture additional water run-off from the parking lot to divert it away from the play area and our neighbors.</p> |
| <p>COMMUNITY</p> |
| <p>1. Gazebo It is hard to miss our new beautiful community gathering space for prayer, events, and programming. Find the storage box behind Gazebo with prayer books and supplies such as bug repellent and paper towels for your convenience.</p> |
| <p>PATHS</p> |
| <p>All paths were installed by Temple Aliyah members who generously donated their time and hard work to make sure the paths maintained the serene and organic feel of our beautiful Sukkat Shalom.</p> |
| <p>1. Colorful Mosaic Stepping Stones On the lower path from the Gazebo towards the play area (close to the second garden exit), you will find colorful mosaic stepping stones created by our Mercaz Aliyah students. Each year a new one will be created and installed.</p> |
| <p>2. Accessibility The path from the back parking lot was graded to make Sukkat Shalom accessible to all our members.</p> |

| CONTEMPLATION | |
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| <p>Continuing past the Gazebo (with your back to the play area) you will see a path that splits into a fork and into the contemplation area. Especially designed as a quiet retreat, individuals and small groups can reflect and contemplate in a tranquil surrounding connected to nature. A place where people can find healing, renewal and strength in nature.</p> | |
| <p>1. Conversation Pods</p> <p>Two “conversation pods” have been carved out for our members to enjoy. Note the different seating arrangements, each meant to accommodate a different size group and afford different viewpoints into the garden.</p> | |
| NATIVE PLANTS | |
| <p>1. Native, Low Maintenance plants</p> <p>As you stroll through this area and the whole space, look for many plants that are native to our climate and soil, love shade and are drought resistant.</p> | |
| <p>2. How many native plans are there?</p> <p>In the fall of 2023 over 40 Temple Aliyah volunteers spent hours planting over 500 native plants in Sukkat Shalom.</p> <p>Before this day, the space was barren, having been cleared out of invasive and non-native shrubs, vines, plants and weeds in preparation for restoring the biodiversity of our space.</p> | |
| <p>3. Find these native plants</p> <p>See if you can find these plants as you stroll throughout Sukkat Shalom. If you look closely you will find some small bamboo markers with names of plants. Some still have their original tags with their names.</p> | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">WITCH HAZEL <p>Witch Hazel serves as a host plant for the larvae of the spring azure butterfly. Its foliage also hosts a variety of moth larvae, which nourish songbirds (and their chicks). Its twiggy, herringbone framework makes a super nesting site for thicket-dwelling birds like flycatchers, wood thrushes, and Indigo Buntings. The shrub blooms in early spring.</p> | <div><p><i>Witch Hazel blooms in the spring</i></p></div> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLETHRA RUBY SPICE Songbirds, including robin, goldfinch, and warblers are attracted to Clethra's seed capsules. It is also a nectar source for swallowtail butterflies and hummingbirds. |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SPICEBUSH The high-energy fruit of Spicebush attracts many birds. Its flowers are a favorite of many butterflies, and the larvae (caterpillar) of the spicebush swallowtail butterfly feeds on the leaves. |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ARROWWOOD VIBURNUM The blue-black berries it produces in the fall are high in fat making them valuable to fall migrants. Numerous species of birds nest in this shrub including gray catbirds, towhees, mockingbirds, brown thrashers and cardinals. Viburnum species are also larval host plants for over 100 native butterfly and moth caterpillars. |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CANADIAN WILD GINGER Once established, this ground cover can fend off Garlic Mustard and other invasive weeds. They colonize easily, keeping the soil moist and shaded and have pretty heart shaped leaves. It is also deer resistant. |  |